



tieton

Nuwaytət was a child when she accompanied her parents to hunt, fish and dig roots in the mountains in the *Tayt-in* and upper *Naxchiish* area, when she saw the P'ukt'uku-nim (Rock Pictographs). She said, "small children were often left among rocks at the cliff, at night, in hopes that they might see one of those *watit'aas*." When the *Watit'aas* communicated with the child, he or she was given this power by the "little people, and they had strong *tamanwas* (medicine power). It was good for a child of about five or six years to see the *watit'aas*, but it was death for a grown person.

"Before the white people settled around here, no one could destroy the P'uk t'uk nim. If the paint was rubbed off, or smeared with mud, the next morning it would be all fresh and bright as ever. The Little *Watit'aas* watched over the painted rocks and the markings, and they never let them grow dim. It is too bad that the white people are destroying the P'uk-t'uk-nim. The *tamanwit* (law) of my people was painted on those rocks by the *Watit'aas*, the Ancient People."

There are many signs left by these Little People all over, in our canyons, along the Nch'i Wana (Columbia River) rock cliffs, and other places where they left their picture-writing on the rocks. No one can interpret their meaning but it is believed they were left there for a reason.

Slusk i n

watit~~as~~ → is a verb to tell
a ~~legend~~
legend
wati

Watit'aas — ~~the~~ the actor
in the noun

Tamanwit — law (created) 3-12-96
Tuesday

Tamanwas — ^{giver of power}
~~Seeker of creation~~
Refers to following what
you learned from your
knowledge —

Tamanwi — to Create

Tamanwita' — Creator

Wati — to tell a legend

Taytsim — Tieton

Tixwat

~~Lo~~ Lixwaylat —
taxámshish —